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INFORMATIONAL NOTICE

DATE: November 6, 2006

TO: Participating Pharmacies

RE: Emergency Contraceptives

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved the emergency contraceptive drug Plan B as an over-the-counter (OTC) option for women aged 18 and older. Plan B will continue to require a prescription for women aged 17 and younger. In accordance with FDA guidelines, patients must present their identification to demonstrate that they are 18 years of age or older before a pharmacist can dispense. More information on the topic can be found at http://www.fda.gov/cder/drug/infopage/planB/planBQandA20060824.htm

The purpose of this notice is to advise pharmacies that, effective immediately, HFS does not require that women aged 18 and older have a physician's order or prescription in order for pharmacies to be reimbursed for Plan B Over-The-Counter. Please be aware that pharmacies are still required to obtain recipient signatures when the pharmaceutical is purchased on their Daily Log or Dispensing Record. HFS has coordinated with the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation in developing this policy.

HFS will have system edits in place to ensure appropriate utilization.

Prescriber ID and Prescriber Last Name are required fields for NCPDP 5.1 claims. In order for HFS to process a pharmacy claim, these fields must be populated. Because there will not be a prescriber for these claims, HFS is providing data elements that pharmacies should use to populate the Prescriber ID and Prescriber Last Name fields on the claim form when dispensing Plan B over-the-counter to a woman age 18 or older.

NCPDP 5.1 Claim Segment field and valid value:

Prescriber ID Qualifier (466-EZ) Value = 12

Prescriber ID (411-DB) Value = AA0000000 (No Prescription Required)

Prescriber Last Name (427-DR) Value = PLANB

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